In tough economic times, I am grateful to have a Commissioner of Corrections like Chris Epps. He has worked tirelessly to improve the Mississippi correctional system. As Deputy Commissioner, and now Commissioner, he has made accreditation of all facilities and work centers a priority. He has also worked hard to facilitate the transfer of Delta Correctional Facility to the County system. He has demonstrated ways to cut costs while maintaining a high level of safety for our communities, and when the legislature gives him the flexibility to manage the system as a whole, I'm confident we will see greater things out of his agency.

In addition, he serves in the Mississippi National Guard to protect our freedom. I believe he works almost as many hours in a day as I do for the people of Mississippi.

FYI – Previous statement from March 6

"Chris Epps is providing the leadership necessary to manage the Department of Corrections. He is doing a tremendous job of improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the Department of Corrections, and I am hopeful he will be given the flexibility to do more with the resources provided to the department. I have every confidence in his experience and ability."